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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Foundor DATE DISTR. 10 APR 51

SUBJECT

Communist Attitude Concerning the Asociacion de Investigaciones Anti-Comunistas

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- At a session of the Partido Comunista del Ecuador (PCE), in Quite, on the night of Tuesday, 16 January 1951, there was a discussion as to whether it would be practicable at that time to engage in some action against the activities of the Asociacion de Investigaciones Anti-Commistas Pro-Naciones Unidas.* No decision was reached, since the meeting was informal and attended by only a few members. The matter is to be discussed when members of the Central Committee are present.
- 2. At this meeting several plans of action against the Asociacion were mentioned: one suggestion was to disrupt showings of USIE films at /sociacion meetings; another was to stone the meeting place; a suggestion to sack the Asociacion's herdquarters was raised but not supported by the majority present.
- Cesar Endare, a member of the Central Committee, has stated that he and other Central Committee members feel that no drastic action should be taken against the Asociacion at this time, because Communist-provoked public scendels might be detrimental to gaining the collaboration of the Movimiento Civico Democratico Nacional (MCDN), which the PCE desires in the coming presidential elections. Endara mentioned it might be possible for the Communists to provoke a scandal without correlating themselves personally.

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Announcements by Guayaouil newspapers that a Comite de Investigaciones Comunistas had been organized in Wito under the leadership of Erneste Espinoza del Campo** evoked comments by two members of the Communist Party in Guayacuil. Jorge Salvatierra Saavedra, a teacher at the Borje Lavayen School and a university law student, and Victor Rodriguez Roditti, also a university law student who teaches at the Borja Lawayen School and is a radio announcer for El Telegrafo, both stated that they believed that this Comite is connected with the U.S. secret service and will spread propaganda against Inssia and in favor of the United Nations. They said that the Comite has induced two retired Ecvadoran Army officers, Col. Joaquin Semaniego and one Col. Batalles, to or enize a force of one thousand retired military men in Foundor to fight in Korea or in any other part of the world against Russia. They further stated that Espinoza will find it more difficult to organize a Scuite in Chayaquil, where there is a more liberal spirit and the influence of the church is not so great. Salvetierra and Rodriguez believed that the Comite had been formed in preparation for the meeting of Latin American foreign ministers in Merch.

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Comment. According to press reports, Ernesto Espinoza del Campo Is the Leader of the Asociacion, which has its headquerters at Plaza Victoria No. 1071, Quito. Membership cards requiring the member's photo, name, address, nationality, civil status, occupation, and age, and the President's and Secretary's signatures have been issued. The cooperation of the members with the authorities is requested in a note at the bottom of the card. Other sources have reported that Jose Palacios Morenos, a chauffeur and sympathizer of the Communist Party, was used by the Asociacion to obtain members for the organization. Palacios has informed the Party in detail of the activities of the organization. (B-3)

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Comment. It was removed in 1943 that Espinoza was a member of a highly secret nolice organization under President Arroyo del Rio.

